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Letter dated 15 March 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith an information bulletin dated 15 March 2018 from the Russian Federation Ministry of Defence regarding the status of implementation of the Memorandum on the creation of de-escalation areas in the Syrian Arab Republic (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) V. **Nebenzia**

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Annex to the letter dated 15 March 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Information bulletin from the Russian Federation Ministry of Defence regarding the status of implementation of the Memorandum on the creation of de-escalation areas (15 March 2018)

Observance of the ceasefire regime

Monitoring groups have continued to monitor observance of the ceasefire regime as part of implementing the Memorandum on the creation of de-escalation areas in the Syrian Arab Republic, signed by the Russian Federation, the Republic of Turkey and the Islamic Republic of Iran on 4 May 2017.

The situation in the de-escalation areas has been assessed as stable.

The Russian representative office of the Russian and Turkish Joint Commission reviewing issues related to violations of the ceasefire regime has reported 13 incidents of gunfire in the following Governorates: 6 in Ladhiqiyah, 4 in Aleppo and 3 in Damascus.

The Turkish representative office has reported five incidents of gunfire in Damascus Governorate.

Most incidents of mortars and small arms being fired indiscriminately have been reported in areas controlled by fighters belonging to terrorist groups.

Provision of humanitarian aid to the population of the Syrian Arab Republic

Over the past 24 hours the Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic has carried out two humanitarian operations: one in Abu Abdah, Aleppo Governorate, and one in Kiswah, Damascus Governorate. Food with a total cargo weight of 3.8 tons was delivered to the local population.

In total, 1,773 humanitarian operations have been carried out.

The total weight of humanitarian cargo delivered is 2,491.8 tons.

Over the past 24 hours, medical assistance has been provided to 234 persons.

In total, medical assistance has been provided to 73,756 persons.

Reconciliation of opposing sides

Over the past 24 hours, one ceasefire agreement has been signed with Jumrukiyah in Aleppo Governorate.

The number of populated areas that have joined the reconciliation process has increased to 2,435.

The number of armed groups that have announced their commitment to accepting and fulfilling the terms of the ceasefire is unchanged — it is still 234.